

Cleveland market, 4.4 percent of the Detroit market and 4.29 percent of the Columbus market. I urge a Yes vote on this legislation because I cannot simply turn my back on this many constituents.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN RITSCHER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California, are exceptional. San Clemente has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Susan Ritscher is one of these individuals. On February 19, 2009, the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce will honor Susan as the "2008 Citizen of the Year."

I've known Susan for several years and can attest to all that she does for the community of San Clemente. Susan served on the San Clemente Planning Commission as Commissioner after which she served on the San Clemente City Council for two terms and was mayor of the city. Susan is a former president of the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities and a board member and chair of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and was the Orange County planning commissioner.

Susan's accomplishments in 2008 are extraordinary. She was the honorary chair of the Capital Campaign for the new Dorothy Visser Senior Center in San Clemente. I was honored to join Susan for a short leg of her 1,000 miles to raise funds for the Senior Center. She also planned and held a major fundraiser entitled "Cruising to our Destination" as well as oversaw and coordinated outreach to foundations. Susan's passion for helping seniors in our community was the driving force in gathering support for the Dorothy Visser Senior Center from legislators at all levels as well as businesses, service clubs and other entities. Susan developed and implemented a Capital Campaign, which raised over 2.1 million dollars in pledges and payments to meet the Campaign goal.

In short, there is nothing Susan cannot do once she puts her mind to it. Susan Ritscher is a model citizen and in 2008 she worked untiringly to improve the lives of San Clemente seniors. She is held in high esteem by the city of San Clemente, the business community and the many people that she impacts everyday in a positive way.

Susan's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of San Clemente, California, and especially to the senior community. I am proud to call Susan a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives the much-deserved "2008 Citizen of the Year" Award.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP, which was founded on February 12th, 1909. For the past century, the NAACP has served as the driving force behind the American civil rights movement, as its founders, leaders and members risked everything to tear down the walls of ignorance and racism, demanding freedom, empowerment, opportunity and justice for all.

With a membership of a half-million strong, the NAACP membership represents communities across the country. The organization was formed partly in reaction to the unconscionable practice of lynching and also in response to the 1908 race riot in Springfield, Illinois. Horrified at the violence aimed at African Americans, a small group of concerned citizens met to discuss and find ways to address racial injustice and the NAACP was formed. Founding members included Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villard, Dr. Henry Moscowitz, Jane Addams and Charles Darrow. The stated goals included securing the rights of all people as guaranteed in the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments of the United States Constitution.

The NAACP was the principle legal advocate for numerous groundbreaking civil rights advancements, including the 1930 anti-lynching bill, the Dyer Bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives but not the U.S. Senate. Shortly thereafter, the NAACP published a report entitled, "Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States," which drastically decreased the incidence of lynching after its release. The impact of the NAACP's support of the civil rights movement is evidenced in numerous landmark court decisions, most notably, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, wherein the brilliant attorney, Thurgood Marshall, who later served as the NAACP's Chief Counsel and also as a United States Supreme Court Justice, argued his case against school segregation, and won.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the members, past and present, of the NAACP, as they celebrate 100 years of service and sacrifice focused on protecting the rights of minority citizens, thereby raising our nation upon a platform where human rights and civil rights are protected for all.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SHER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor veteran broadcaster Richard Sher who is retiring from WJZ Television after 33 years.

Richard had a remarkable run in television news and worked as a news anchor and reporter in Baltimore. He anchored the popular

political talk show "Square-Off" and co-hosted the morning talk show "People Are Talking" with then up-and-comer Oprah Winfrey.

In 2006, he graced the silver screen and played himself in the movie *Man of the Year* featuring Robin Williams. In his stories, Richard had the ability to capture the true heart of the people and places that make Baltimore so unique.

Richard is home grown Baltimore. He went to St. Paul's School and received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Maryland at College Park.

Richard began his broadcasting career as a radio disc jockey for WEAM in Arlington, Virginia. He moved to Baltimore to become a News Director for WCBM and made the move to television news a short time later when he joined WJZ in 1975.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate Richard Sher on his exemplary career as a journalist in Baltimore. I wish him well in his much deserved retirement.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF MARY ATMSA-CAM- ERON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, before my esteemed colleagues, an exceptional woman whose contributions to the California dairy industry epitomize the tenacious spirit of industriousness and persistence found often in our Agricultural communities across this country. I would like to recognize Mary Atmsa-Cameron, who on February 10th, 2009 was awarded the "2009 Outstanding Dairy Producer of the Year" award by Western Dairy Business magazine at the World Ag Expo in Tulare, California.

This indeed is a great honor. In an industry predominated by male ownership, Mary has distinguished herself as a force to contend with. According to her own words, "I'm a 'dairyman' and I say that because I've always worked like a dairyman, right alongside the men. I don't ask for special favors because I'm a woman." Mary has been in the dairy business now for 53 years and can still be found engaged in the day to day operations of the business; from driving tractor to managing the finances, purchasing feed and/or even assisting in "pulling" calves for cows struggling to deliver. Mary estimates that she has assisted in over 1,000 calf deliveries to date.

Not only has Mary Atmsa-Cameron been an excellent hands-on "dairyman", Mary has also been a very active spokesperson and advocate for the dairy industry. Those who know Mary best, confirm that she is passionate and outspoken when it comes to dairy issues. Mary can be found continually urging local, state and federal officials concerning policy decisions affecting all dairy producers. From efforts to expanding the school milk programs to addressing supply management issues, Mary has a lengthy resume of involvement. Mary is a member of Kings County Dairywomen serving as president in 1981-82. She was a member of the National Dairy Board from 1994-2000 and was reappointed in 2003 where she continues to serve. Mary

was the first, and thus far, the only woman director to serve on the Board of Western United Dairymen Association. She has also served as secretary of Dairy Management Inc., and as director of Dairy Council of California from 1992–2004. Mary is presently on the board of directors for the Kings County Farm Bureau. Her awards include Kings County 2001 Agriculturalist of the year, the 2003 Woman of Distinction award by Soroptomist International of Hanford, CA and the 2003 Common Threads Honoree by California State University of Fresno.

Mary is truly a remarkable woman; always persistent, always engaged. Mary is definitely the sort of advocate that the dairy industry needs on its side. So I congratulate Mary Atsma-Cameron today on the receipt of this distinguished honor and to commend her before you, my colleagues, for her on-going contributions the dairy industry of California, indeed, the nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOTTIE
FOX

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness by the passing away of such a wonderful, spiritual, gentle, native Mississippian, Mrs. Lottie Fox. Mrs. Fox just celebrated, remarkably, her 104th birthday on Thursday, February 5, 2009. She was the oldest of fifteen siblings.

Lottie was dutiful and diligent and contributed tirelessly as an agricultural farmer to her native Calhoun County community for several years. Upon her retirement from farming, she made Water Valley, Mississippi, her home for over 30 years.

Lottie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother. She is survived by her daughters, Opeal Trice; Ella Harris; Army Woodward; Bernice Minor; Molly Simmons; Dolly Fant; Catherine Brown; Rudy Swift; her son, Willie Fox and Step-daughters; Ella Coleman and Lela Doolittle. Lottie is also survived by 47 grandchildren, 69 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great grandchildren. Lottie was also a proud and devout member of Everdale Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, with distinct honor and pride, I along with the citizens of both Yalobusha and Calhoun County, sadly mourn the death of such an inspirational Mississippian, as the 104 year old, Mrs. Lottie Fox. I want to personally thank her for her contributions. Her memory will live on.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GILBERT ROBERT CRAFT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Citronelle and the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Gilbert Robert Craft and pay tribute to his memory.

Known to his many friends as “Bobby,” he was a lifelong resident of Citronelle. He graduated from Citronelle High School and Spring Hill College. He also served in the U.S. Army and attained the rank of captain.

Bobby began his career in public service in 1968 when he was elected to the Citronelle Town Council. In 1970, he was appointed to Citronelle’s Utility Board, which later became South Alabama Utilities. He served as chairman from 1972 until 1984 when he was named executive director, a position he held for more than 39 years. Under Bobby’s leadership, the local utility company encompassing one municipality grew to become one of the most respected utilities in the South, expanding into Semmes, west Mobile County, and at one time, southern Mobile County.

In honor of his service and unwavering devotion to his city, Bobby was twice named Citronelle’s Citizen of the Year. He was the owner of two companies, Craft Auto Parts and Craft Oil Company, and was a devoted member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church where he was a member for more than 70 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Gilbert Robert Craft will be dearly missed by his family—his wife, Patricia; his children, Gilbert Robert Craft Jr. and his wife Deena, Patricia D’Nette Fagan, and Matthew Reed Craft and his wife Kirsten; his five grandchildren, Tiffani Marie Craft, Joshua Robert Craft, Blakely Danelle Fagan, Reed Alexander Craft, and Raleigh Connell Craft; and his three brothers, Joseph P. Craft, James B. Craft, and William M. Craft—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX RELIEF FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKERS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act. This legislation helps those who work in the port industry cope with the costs of complying with Congress’s mandate that all those working on a port obtain a Transportation Worker Identity Card, TWIC. The Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act provides a tax credit to workers who pay the costs of obtaining TWICs. The credit is refundable against both income and payroll tax liabilities.

When Congress created the TWIC requirement, it placed the burden of paying the cost of obtaining the card on individual workers. Imposing the costs of obtaining TWICs on port workers has several negative economic impacts that Congress should help mitigate by making the cost associated with obtaining a TWIC tax deductible. According to the Department of Homeland Security, a port worker will have to pay between \$100 and \$132 to obtain a card. The worker will also have to pay a \$60 fee for every card that is lost or damaged. Even those employers whose employers pay the substantial costs of obtaining TWICs for

their workforce are adversely affected by the TWIC requirement, as the money employers pay for TWICs is money that cannot go into increasing their workers’ salaries. The costs of the TWIC requirement may also cause some employers to refrain from hiring new employees.

Ironically, many of the employees whose employers are unable to pay the TWIC are part-time or temporary workers at the lower end of the income scale. Obviously, the TWIC requirement hits these workers the hardest. According to Recana, an employer of port workers in my district, the fee will have a “significant impact” on port workers.

Unless Congress acts to relieve some of the economic burden the TWIC requirement places on those who work in the port industry, the damage done could reach beyond the port employers and employees to harm businesses that depend on a strong American port industry. This could be very harmful to both interstate and international trade.

Regardless of what one thinks of the merits of the TWIC card, it is simply not right for Congress to make the port industry bear all the costs of TWIC. I therefore urge my colleagues to stand up for those who perform vital tasks at America’s ports by cosponsoring the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act.

CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO WHITE HOUSE POLITICIZATION OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, yesterday we learned of two important developments as the White House plans to grab control of the day-to-day management of the U.S. Census Bureau: (1) The U.S. Senate’s chief committee on government oversight scheduled its first hearing of the year to investigate the matter; (2) Senator GREGG withdrew his name for the consideration of the Commerce Secretary position, citing “irreconcilable difference” with the President on the future of the U.S. Census.

These developments solidify what we already know: a political grab of the Census will jeopardize the non-partisan operations of the Bureau, and potentially disrupt the completion of a competent, reliable census.

My Republican colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously joined my call for an oversight hearing in the House. The Senate has heard our call. What do House Democrats have to hide? Americans deserve a non-partisan and accurate census, not one driven by partisan politics. Let’s hold a hearing and ensure that we give them that.

RECOGNIZING THE FOUNDING OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to acknowledge the